

PEOPLE
WHO WANT
HOUSES

Should peruse the
THE DISPATCH
All having Houses
to Rent
Tenants by ad-
vertising in THE DIS-
PATCH

FORTY-FOURTH YEAR.

SIGNS OF WAR.

The Distant Muttering of the
Great June Battle for Pro-
hibition Now

ROARS AND THUNDERS

Through the Wyoming Valley,
and the Camp Fires are
Burning Brightly.

THE CHIVALRY OF LUZERNE

Say They Will Make a Strong Fight
for the Amendment if Their
Wives and Daughters

WILL RALLY AROUND THE POLLS.

A German Catholic Priest Denounces the
Amendment as an Unright-
eous Measure.

WYOMING COUNTY FOR PROHIBITION

Luzerne county is being hotly contested
by better temperance people and liquor men
for her vote on Constitutional amendment.
The campaign seems to be further advanced
than elsewhere. It rather looks as if
the chances of success were slightly in favor
of the saloon interests, although the ma-
jority will be small either way. The wealth-
iest and most influential people in Wilkes-
barre have gone into the fight, and are really
more of a factor than the thousands of coal
miners in the country districts. Wyoming
county will vote for the amendment. Thus
far THE DISPATCH's canvass of counties
shows the following result:

COUNTIES.	Amendment in favor of	Prohibition in favor of	Adopted
Armstrong	8,898	1,191	Adopted
Berks	26,262	2,622	Adopted
Cambria	11,702	1,702	Adopted
Cameron	1,945	1,945	Adopted
Carbon	1,258	1,258	Adopted
Clarion	6,945	6,945	Adopted
Clearfield	1,197	1,197	Adopted
Columbia	14,200	14,200	Adopted
Crawford	1,601	1,601	Adopted
Cum gratia	26,889	26,889	Adopted
Dauphin	7,900	7,900	Adopted
DeKalb	7,905	7,905	Adopted
Delaware	32,927	32,927	Adopted
Elk	10,094	10,094	Adopted
Franklin	1,528	1,528	Adopted
Fayette	17,103	17,103	Adopted
Forest	4,431	4,431	Adopted
Frederick	2,802	2,802	Adopted
Garrettsville	7,905	7,905	Adopted
Greene	14,228	14,228	Adopted
Greene	14,228	14,228	Adopted
Washington	14,228	14,228	Adopted
Westmoreland	14,228	14,228	Adopted
Wyoming	14,228	14,228	Adopted

*Aggregate of votes for Harrison, Cleveland
and Fish.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.)

WILKESBARRE, February 10.—The distant
mutterings of the great June battle are
heard more distinctly, perhaps, in the Wyom-
ing Valley than anywhere else in the
State. Awarth the social horizon of Lu-
zerne county are portentous signs of war.
Already the campaign has opened. The
first bench political cauldrons long since
died out, and the only partisanship in this
conflict is that of a united cold-water army
against a determined regiment of over 1,000
liquor dealers and their 12,000 or 15,000
friends.

No side issues spoil the nicety of the fight.
A single line separates the opposing forces.
On one side flutters the flag of prohibition.
Beyond lays a parchment with the word
"license" written across the corporate seal.
Around each standard now beats the
revolve.

The spectacle is majestic. Both sides
stand evenly matched, and each is eager for
the fray. To one who has been in
counties where the temperance senti-
ment was too overwhelming, or the liquor
element too powerful, to afford opportunity
for a hotly-contested, hand-to-hand skir-
mish, the situation of affairs here dawns
upon him with impressiveness as well as
exaltation.

The Prevailing Excitement.
It's thrilling, too. When chivalry on
the one side, and self-defense on the other,
meet in such a struggle as this, many a lit-
tle tale is born that makes interesting read-
ing. Several stories of this description are
going the rounds in Wilkesbarre. One,
for illustration, is that about a well-known
professional gentleman of the city who was
standing at the bar of a saloon. He was a
regular customer of the place.

"Well, John, you're going to vote against
that amendment and help your friend,
ain't you?" asked the saloon keeper.
"A man's family should deserve his first
contribution," quietly replied the gentle-
man.

"Family be damned. That's no excuse for
voting away your liberties."
The customer flushed at this boisterous
allusion to kindred. "Look here, Mr. saloon
keeper," he said putting down his
"you don't know what you're saying.
By that way of talking you are making
votes against yourself. Every man in this
barroom has a family. There's some
chivalry left in humanity, and the women
are for this issue. June 18th will probably be
a beautiful day. Our wives will be to the
polls themselves, and where's the man who
won't say 'yes' to his wife before he will to
a liquor dealer?"

"Heart heat!" yelled the crowd and every
man in the room cheered for the amend-
ment and the women.

It's bold-faced robbery to ruin me with that
amendment."
The physician, who is a drinking man,
replied honestly by his own convictions.
"I'm afraid you belong to a class of men
who let themselves be open to such a grave
charge. I know none of them, but I ask them in all
frankness if they can vote for a continua-
tion of this business, believing it to be
honest?"

Seven men were present. Everyone of
them promised to vote for prohibition.
The "Wilkesbarre Wheelmen" are a bi-
cycle club of 30 of the most prominent
young men in the city. The liquor men
have tried to capture the organization for
electrofixing, and it is causing some talk
that seven of the leaders have declared
against the amendment.

In one of his public discourses from the
leading German Catholic Church, Rev.
Father C. B. Vogle has denounced the
amendment as an unrighteous measure, and
denounced his flock to vote against it.

These are some incidents to indicate the
excitement prevailing in Luzerne county
over the issue.

Spending Big Money.
The Constitutional amendment advocates
have bought the right to one column of
space daily in the three newspapers of
Wilkesbarre—Record, Republican and
Leader. These three columns are edited by
Hon. D. L. Rhone, Judge of the Orphan
Court. He supplies them with fresh matter
every day.

This costs something. But the "Literary
Committee" of the Amendment Association
is composed of 25 of the richest men and
women in Wilkesbarre, and Wilkesbarre is
perhaps the wealthiest of Pennsylvania's
small cities. This newspaper space was
bought very soon after the resolution passed
the legislative caucus at Harrisburg, and
the matter that appears in being local,
bright and ably written, is generally talked
about over the streets. Although each
paper reserves its editorial privileges, the
movement was a neat bit of strategy which
the liquor men envy.

Ex-Archbishop General H. W. Palmer,
Judge Rhone is authority for the state-
ment that the internal revenue lists show
that 290 other saloons are selling without a
license. The city of Wilkesbarre, having a
population of over 40,000, has a good per-
centage of these saloons.

Over 1,000 Saloons.
There are 718 licensed bars in the county,
and Judge Rhone is authority for the state-
ment that the internal revenue lists show
that 290 other saloons are selling without a
license. The city of Wilkesbarre, having a
population of over 40,000, has a good per-
centage of these saloons.

The others are distributed throughout the
county. Luzerne county's population is
about 150,000. The anthracite coal indus-
try has swollen the population. The Lehigh
Coal Company, for example, owns 30,000
acres of the finest agricultural territory in
the State, but its surface is not touched by
the farmer.

This has led to an immense foreign popu-
lation. More than that, much of it is en-
franchised, 2,000 Hungarians and Italians
were naturalized and will be able to vote in
June, with several thousand other foreign
coal miners who previously took out papers.
Local option was adopted in this county
in 1873 by just 619 majority. That was
close enough, but this year it is not ex-
pected the winner will have 100 votes to
spare, he liquor dealer or prohibitionist.

Both are claiming the county, but neither
very positively.

Right From the Shoulder.
Judge Rhone gave me the benefit of a
hull in his interview proceeding this morning,
and in his interview he dealt with the liquor
men of Luzerne without mercy. He said:
"I should judge that our county is in a much
more promising condition for the adoption of
the amendment than it was when local option
was adopted. That means to the day be-
fore the Brooks bill. The aggressive and un-
reasonable exactions of the County Liquor
League in political and business methods has
turned the tide. The Catholic Church has done
have outrageously boycotted politicians and
business men who signed remonstrances
against them. The effect will now be seen."

Another reason for the reversion of public
opinion in this county is the fact that the
amendment in our county has been occasioned
by drunkenness. Murder after murder has been
committed. Wickedness became so rampant
as to disgrace the county. A feeling now pre-
vails not only in Wilkesbarre, but in all parts
of the county, that Constitutional amendment
will give the Law and Order element a chance
to suppress crime, and the source of it.

A Heavy Catholic Vote.
One thing that contributes to the closeness
of the election in this county is the big
Catholic vote. In the mining regions of Lu-
zerne and Lackawanna counties the Cath-
olic Total Abstinence Society has some
9,000 members. That represents 15 per cent
of the church membership. Judge Rhone
said that the Catholic Church has done
of the society that fully three-fourths of its
members would, as individuals, vote for the
amendment.

The ex-president of the society, J. S.
McGroarty, however, reduces this estimate
somewhat, but still leaves it at a figure which
will be a powerful factor in making up the
whole result in the coal region. Mr. Mc-
Groarty said:

We have all been reading the utterances of
Archbishop Ryan and Cardinal Gibbons, pub-
lished in THE DISPATCH, on this subject. Not
more than one-third of the membership of the
Total Abstinence Society in this county will
vote for the amendment. They prefer high
license. Yet there is one thing that will drive
the entire membership in both Luzerne and
Lackawanna counties to vote for the amend-
ment, and that is any attempt on the part
of the saloon keepers to swagger, boast or
browbeat the temperance element. We will
not stand by and see the Catholic Church do
a wonderful work in the anthracite regions.
Fifteen years ago, when Molly Maguire
flourished here, the Irish miners were a tough
set, but now it is very seldom you see a young
Irishman in a saloon in the Wyoming dis-
trict.

The Catholics in Schuylkill county are
not so well organized in temperance work
in the coal regions there, and as I stated in
my last letter, that county will give a big
majority against the amendment.

A Brewer is Hopeful.
Fred Stagner is one of the proprietors
of a big brewery here. His brother is one
of Wilkesbarre's representatives in the
Legislature. Mr. Stagner said today:
The campaign will be warmer after April.
I think we will carry Luzerne county against
the amendment.

The Pittsburgh Dispatch

PITTSBURG, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1899.

JAPAN MODERNIZED.

A Constitution to be Granted to the
People by the Mikado.

LATEST OF JAPANESE REFORMS.

The Khedive Regrets He Did Not Attend
the Baseball Game.

AN ENGLISH HOTEL KEEPER MURDERED.

Mass Meetings in London Boldly Denounce the
Government.

MURDERED BY RUM.

Two Lads Killed by Overdose of Moon-
shine Whisky—The Awful Crime of a
Kentucky Liquor Law
Violation.

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.
LOUISVILLE, February 10.—An in-
habitant of Ohio county, Friday, a work-
man named John Hall, who divides his time
between coal mining and violating the pro-
hibition laws, enticed three boys, named
John Ferguson, Thomas Chin and Charles
Bunch to his "blind tiger" and sold them a
quart of vile stuff out of a jug. They drank
largely of it and started for home, carrying
the bottle with them.

They were noticed to be crazy drunk by
several people, but no particular attention
was paid to them. When near Beaver-
dam, the boys separated. Chin went
home and fell in the doorway, motionless.
A physician was summoned, and it re-
quired hard work to save his life. The other
two failed to turn up, and as the search
party was formed to look for them.

They had not gone far when they came
upon a house. He was lying in an in-
soluble condition and had to be carried home.
A physician was also called to attend him,
but he was so far gone that but little could
be done for him, and he was lying, yester-
day about at the point of death. The
young men who carried Bunch home re-
turned as quickly as possible to look for
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BALFOUR AND O'BRIEN.

The Former Denies That the Latter is in
Favor of Prison.

LONDON, February 10.—Mr. Balfour, in
a long reply to a correspondent, dealing
with the party to which the Glad-
stonian put the O'Brien incident, says the
storm was artificially raised for the interests
of a faction, and proceeds to generally de-
scribe the charges made against the prison au-
thorities. He quotes from a letter sent by
Mr. O'Brien to Mr. O'Connell to the effect
that he had no complaint to make. If the
rule depriving the prisoner of his clothing had
been insisted on, he would say that no
charge of violence should be used.

Mr. Balfour further writes that Dr.
O'Connell reported that Mr. O'Brien board-
ed, in a cell in which the temperature was
below that of the wind, and observed that
Mr. Balfour in a letter to the Times in
reference to Mr. O'Brien's describing as a
villainous and cowardly misrepresentation
his (Balfour's) statement that O'Brien
placed every obstacle in the way of a
medical examination, says that the
Freeman's Journal and the United
Irishman both carried the same effect.
The facts were, however, that Dr.
O'Brien submitted to an examination with
the stethoscope, but declined to be weighed
or to answer any questions. He (Balfour)
was quite willing to put it to O'Brien
three serious obstacles in the way instead
of "every obstacle."

INDIA'S POLITICAL POSITION.

The absence of Cabinet gossip at Indian-
apolis on Sunday is a good thing for the
Hoosier capital saloon keeper. The pro-
fessional politician finds it necessary to
drink every 15 minutes under the circum-
stances, and as a result, gets royally flat.
Only one original Harrison man appeared
at Indianapolis yesterday. He is colored,
and comes from Georgia to tell the Presi-
dent-elect that if the colored men of the South
are neglected when the offices are given out
there will be a grand bolt to the Democratic
party.

INDIANAPOLIS, February 10.—With the

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the Hoosier capital saloon keeper. The pro-
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